West occurred during the March 18–24 period when the western ridge was highly amplified (fig. 9). Lowest temperatures for so late in the season were observed in Florida on March 2 at West Palm Beach (35°F.), and on March 24 at West Palm Beach (43°F.) and Lakeland (35°F.).

The Southwest trough and storm path were best developed early in the month (fig. 7) producing above normal precipitation across the southern part of the Nation. As the upper trough moved into the Mississippi Valley increased precipitation was observed over much of the eastern half of the Nation (fig. 8, 9). During this period, on March 21–23, one of the heaviest March snowstorms of record was reported from the lower Mississippi Valley to southern Ohio. Also during this period, record 24-hr. precipitation amounts were observed on March 17–18 at Boston, Mass.; Providence, R.I.; and Concord, Maine. As the upper level trough became stronger to the north (fig. 9), the major portion of the monthly precipitation in the northern Mississippi Valley occurred.

The final week of the month (fig. 10) with its zonal flow was the driest for much of the Nation. An exception was the Pacific Northwest where orographic precipitation was enhanced by the increasing westerly flow. Major rains also occurred in the Northwest at midmonth (fig. 8) when a deep trough was located near the coast.

REFERENCES

1. J. Posey, "The Weather and Circulation of February 1968—Cool and Dry in the East and Warm in the West," *Monthly Weather Review*, vol. 96, No. 5, May 1968, pp. 330–336.
2. Environmental Data Service, ESSA, *Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin*, vol. 55, No. 11–15, Mar. 11, 18, 25, Apr. 1 and 8, 1968, pp. 1–8.

CORRECTION NOTICE

Vol. 96, No. 1, January 1968, p. 11: Figure 19 is printed upside down.

U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE : 1968—O-298-690